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Metropolis
A CITY WHERE SUNDAY MORNING SNUGGLING IS STILL A NATIONAL PASTIME...
TRUST ME ON THIS... YOU SO DO NOT WANT TO GO WHERE YOU'RE GOING. I KNOW YOU THINK IT'S FUNNY, BUT--
OH, COME ON! IT'S ONLY BEEN THE HOTTEST TOPIC ON THE STREET SINCE YOU CHANGED YOUR HAIRSTYLE...
ENQUIRING MINDS WANT TO KNOW... WHO IS MRS. SUPERMAN?
THERE IS NO MRS. SUPERMAN. NEVER HAS BEEN, NEVER WILL BE...
THERE'S ONLY MRS. CLARK KENT.. REMEMBER HER? YEA HIGH, HEADSTRONG, LOOKS GREAT IN PURPLE?
PURPLE... HA!
SO THAT'S IT? END OF STORY? SUPERMAN GETS THE CAPE AND MICROWAVES HIS OWN DINNERS AT THE FORTRESS OF BACHELORTUDE--
WHILE POOR CLARK KENT GETS STUCK WITH THE BALL AND CHAIN?
EXACTLY... AND I WOULDN'T HAVE IT ANY OTHER WAY.
SMEK
DAILY STAR
METROPOLIS'S OLDEST DAILY NEWSPAPER
WHO IS MR
LOIS, HE DID--I MEAN, I DID PICK --I PICKED YOU.
MMM-HMM... OKAY, SMALLVILLE CHARM ASIDE, THERE WAS PLENTY OF CONJECTURE WHEN THIS STORY BROKE, ABOUT WHO WAS FIT TO WEAR AN 'S' ON HER WEDDING GOWN...
YOU MUST HAVE THOUGHT ABOUT IT... GIVEN THE CHANCE, WHO WOULD HE PICK?
NO, I MEAN HIM, THE MAN OF STEEL! THE DREAM! THE ICON AND ALL THAT... IF HE WAS IN THE MARKET FOR A WIFE, WHO WOULD HE PICK?
HEH, LOIS... THERE ISN'T ANYONE ELSE--

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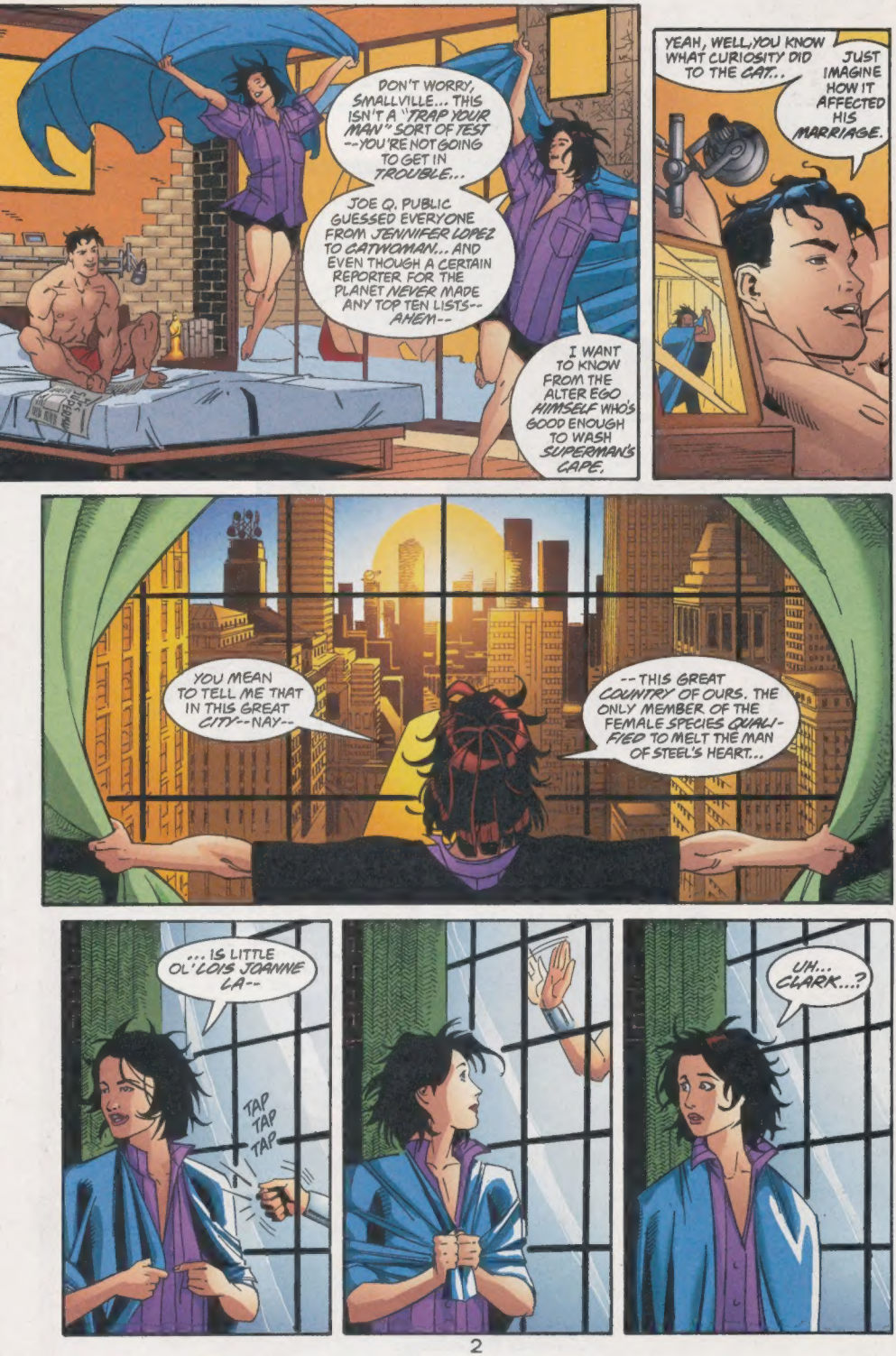
DON'T WORRY, SMALLVILLE... THIS ISN'T A "TRAP YOUR MAN" SORT OF TEST --YOU'RE NOT GOING TO GET IN TROUBLE...
JOE Q. PUBLIC GUESSED EVERYONE FROM JENNIFER LOPEZ TO CATWOMAN... AND EVEN THOUGH A CERTAIN REPORTER FOR THE PLANET NEVER MADE ANY TOP TEN LISTS-- AHEM--
I WANT TO KNOW FROM THE ALTER EGO HIMSELF WHO'S GOOD ENOUGH TO WASH SUPERMAN'S CAPE.
YEAH, WELL, YOU KNOW WHAT CURIOSITY DID TO THE CAT...
JUST IMAGINE HOW IT AFFECTED HIS MARRIAGE.
YOU MEAN TO TELL ME THAT IN THIS GREAT CITY--NAY--
--THIS GREAT COUNTRY OF OURS. THE ONLY MEMBER OF THE FEMALE SPECIES QUALIFIED TO MELT THE MAN OF STEEL'S HEART...
...IS LITTLE OL' LOIS JOANNE LA--
TAP TAP TAP
UH... CLARK...?

FOR A THOUSAND YEARS...
OUR PASTOR ONCE SAID TO ME, "I never thought about other women...until I was married."
--CLARK KENT, DAILY PLANET NOV. 1999
COMPANY.
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GERMAN GARCIA penciler
JOE RUBINSTEIN inker
GLENN WHITMORE colorist
EDDIE BERGANZA editor
MAUREEN MCTIGUE associate
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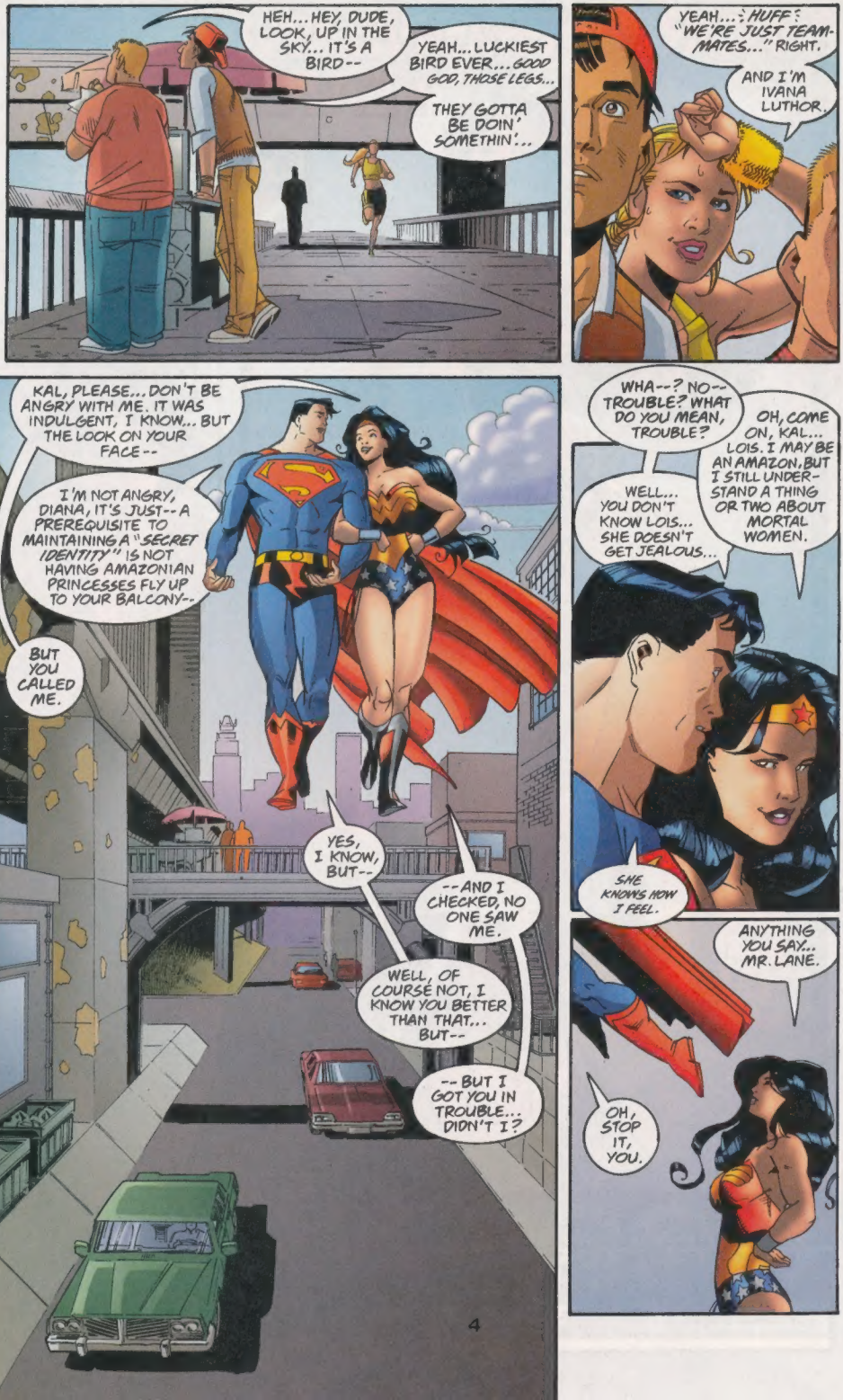
WILDSTORM seps
SUPERMAN created by JERRY SIEGEL & JOE SHUSTER
WONDER WOMAN created by WILLIAM MOULTON MARSTON
3


HEH... HEY, DUDE, LOOK, UP IN THE SKY... IT'S A BIRD--
YEAH... LUCKIEST BIRD EVER... GOOD GOD, THOSE LEGS...
THEY GOTTA BE DOIN' SOMETHIN'...
YEAH...: HUFF: "WE'RE JUST TEAMMATES..." RIGHT.
AND I'M IVANA LUTHOR.
KAL, PLEASE... DON'T BE ANGRY WITH ME. IT WAS INDULGENT, I KNOW... BUT THE LOOK ON YOUR FACE--
I'M NOT ANGRY, DIANA, IT'S JUST-- A PREREQUISITE TO MAINTAINING A "SECRET IDENTITY" IS NOT HAVING AMAZONIAN PRINCESSES FLY UP TO YOUR BALCONY--
BUT YOU CALLED ME.
YES, I KNOW, BUT--
--AND I CHECKED, NO ONE SAW ME.
WELL, OF COURSE NOT, I KNOW YOU BETTER THAN THAT... BUT--
--BUT I GOT YOU IN TROUBLE... DIDN'T I?
WHA--? NO-- TROUBLE? WHAT DO YOU MEAN, TROUBLE?
OH, COME ON, KAL... LOIS. I MAY BE AN AMAZON, BUT I STILL UNDERSTAND A THING OR TWO ABOUT MORTAL WOMEN.
WELL... YOU DON'T KNOW LOIS... SHE DOESN'T GET JEALOUS...
SHE KNOWS HOW I FEEL.
ANYTHING YOU SAY... MR. LANE.
OH, STOP IT, YOU.
4

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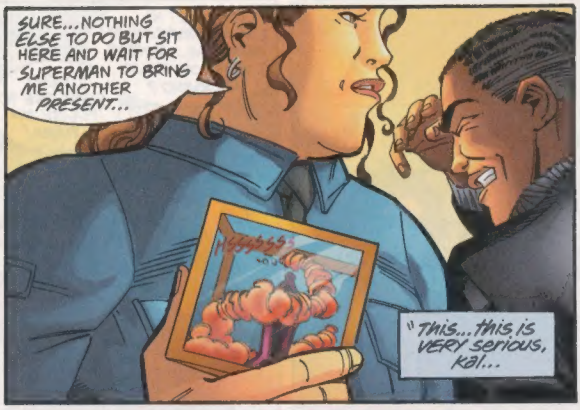
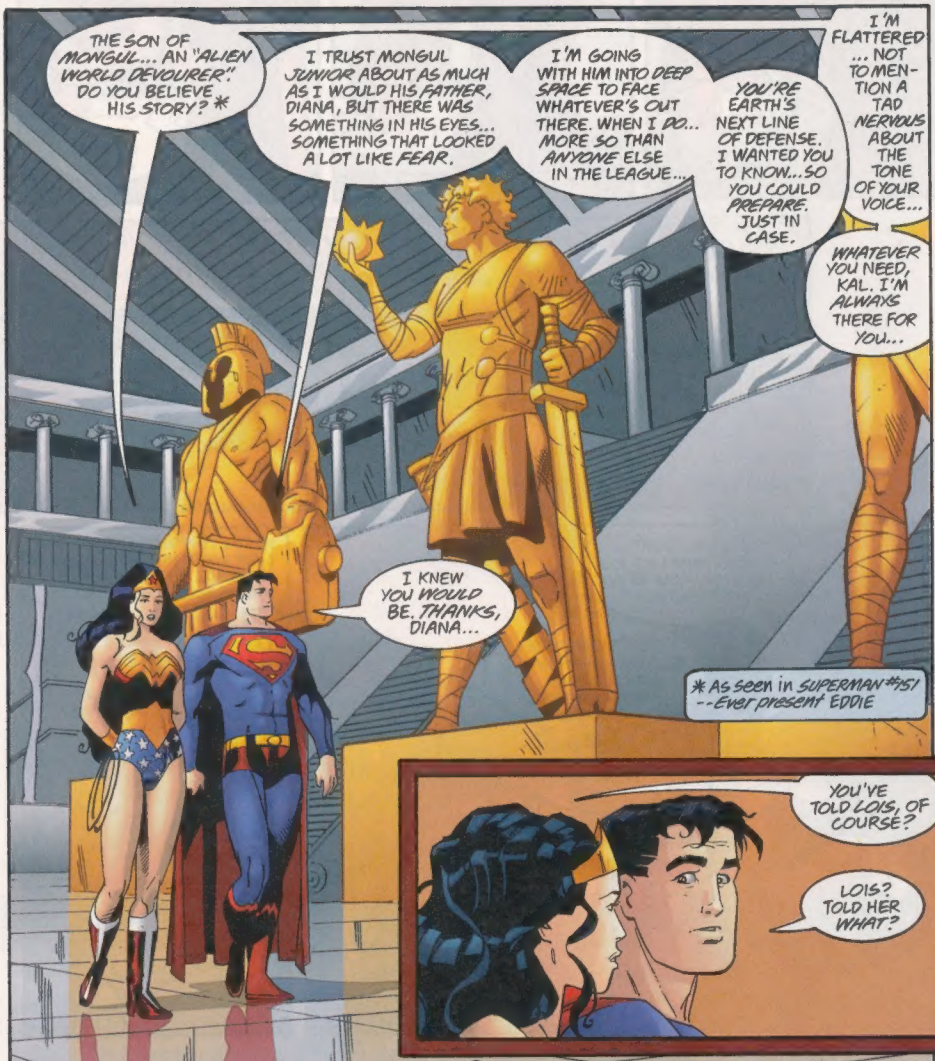
;TEE-HEE; HI, I'M AN AMAZONIAN PRINCESS... MIND IF I BORROW YOUR HUSBAND?
I NEED SOMEONE TO POLISH MY TIARA!
;SIGH; I WONDER IF THEY MAKE A SOLID GOLD SUPPORT BUSTIER IN "MERE MORTAL" SIZE.
STUPID GOLDEN LASSO...
SUPES COULD HAVE ANY WOMAN IN THE WORLD... I MEAN ANY WOMAN.
WHOEVER HIS MRS. IS GONNA BE... SHE'S GOT TO BE PRETTY DARN SPECIAL--
METROPOLIS POLICE
To Serve and Protect
SPECIAL, RIGHT... SPECIAL JUST LIKE YOU, LORETTA-- HAS HE GOT YOUR NUMBER?
DON'T YOU JOKE, BLANKS! IN MY DAY, I COULD TURN A HEAD OR TWO... BESIDES
I MET THE MAN, I KNOW WHAT HE LIKES!
GET OUT. YOU DIDN'T MEET BIG BLUE...
IN THE PERFECT FLESH! JUST LAST WEEK HE CAME DOWN TO EVIDENCE AND DROPPED OFF THIS PIECE... PERSONALLY!
LET ME TELL YOU, THOSE EYES ?!? HAVE MERCY!! NOT TO MENTION THAT HE'S A PERFECT GENTLE-MAN!

I'M SURE HE IS, LO... WHOEVER HE MARRIES, I BET HE'LL TREAT HER RIGHT.
GOTTA GET BACK TO DISPATCH. COFFEE LATER?


SURE... NOTHING ELSE TO DO BUT SIT HERE AND WAIT FOR SUPERMAN TO BRING ME ANOTHER PRESENT...
"THIS... THIS IS VERY SERIOUS, KAL...


THE SON OF MONGUL... AN "ALIEN WORLD DEVOURER". DO YOU BELIEVE HIS STORY? *
I TRUST MONGUL JUNIOR ABOUT AS MUCH AS I WOULD HIS FATHER, DIANA, BUT THERE WAS SOMETHING IN HIS EYES... SOMETHING THAT LOOKED A LOT LIKE FEAR.
I'M GOING WITH HIM INTO DEEP SPACE TO FACE WHATEVER'S OUT THERE. WHEN I DO... MORE SO THAN ANYONE ELSE IN THE LEAGUE...
YOU'RE EARTH'S NEXT LINE OF DEFENSE. I WANTED YOU TO KNOW... SO YOU COULD PREPARE. JUST IN CASE.
I'M FLATTERED ... NOT TO MENTION A TAD NERVOUS ABOUT THE TONE OF YOUR VOICE...
WHATEVER YOU NEED, KAL. I'M ALWAYS THERE FOR YOU...
I KNEW YOU WOULD BE. THANKS, DIANA...
* As seen in SUPERMAN #151 --Ever present EDDIE
YOU'VE TOLD LOIS, OF COURSE?
LOIS? TOLD HER WHAT?

SONY
SONY MINIDISC LETS YOU BE AS FICKLE AS YOU WANT. THE TOUCH OF A BUTTON LETS YOU REARRANGE, ADD AND DELETE SONGS UP TO A MILLION TIMES WITHOUT EVER
GO DIGITAL, LIFE COULD BE A LOT EASIER. FOR MORE INFORMATION, LOG ON TO
HEAR HUNDREDS OF YOUR FAVORITE
ARTISTS ON MD. VISIT YOUR LOCAL
LOVE IT
HATE IT
LOVE IT
EDIT YOUR MUSIC WITH THE TOUCH OF A BUTTON
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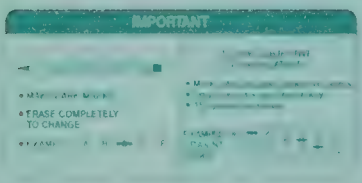


SCANTRON® FORM NO. 882-ES

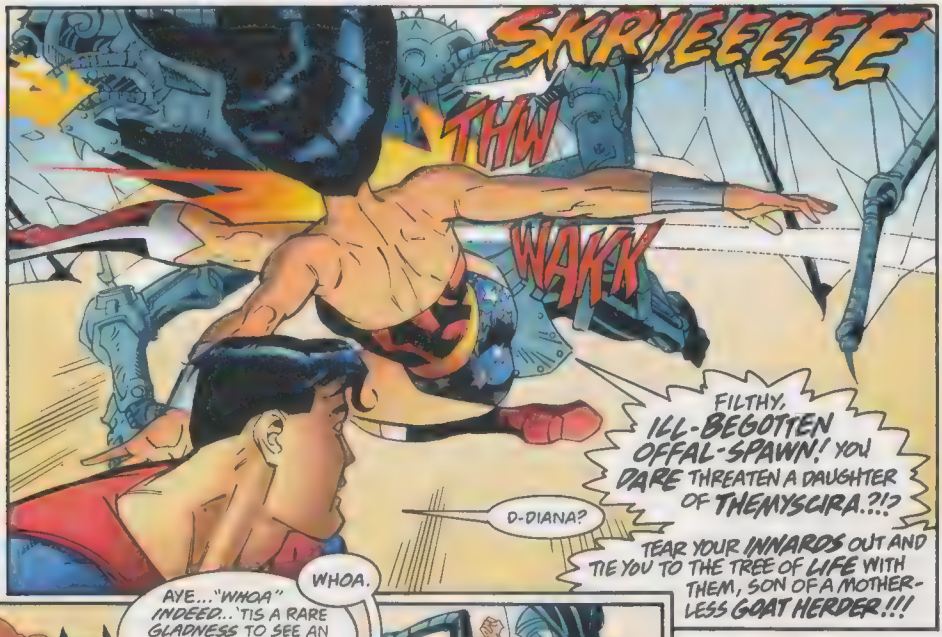
KEY

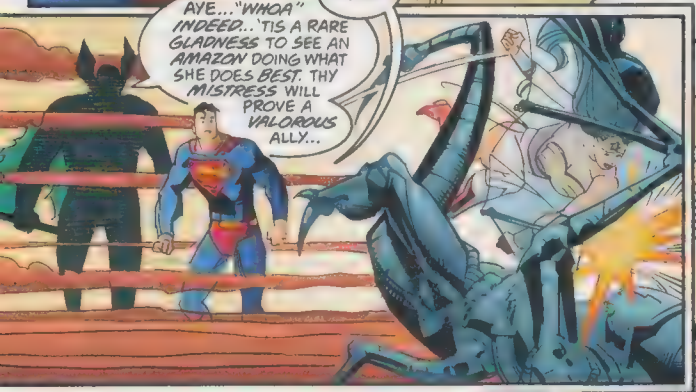
| | | |

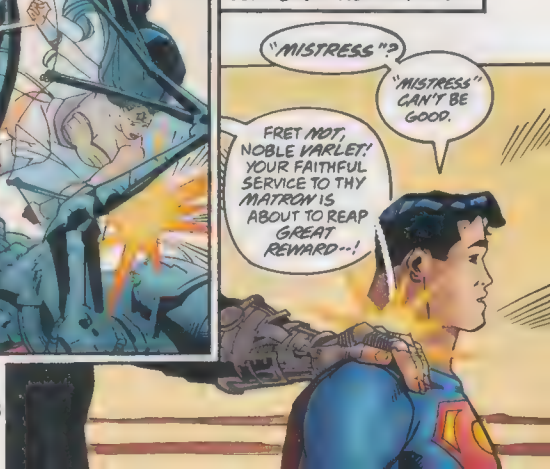
TOLD HER ABOUT THIS QUEST. YOU'RE NOT ASKING ME TO WATCH THE EARTH AS A FORMALITY...
...PART OF YOU DOESN'T EXPECT TO COME BACK.
... I HAVEN'T TOLD HER, NO. I CAN'T MAKE HER WORRY EVERY TIME I THINK THERE'S GOING TO BE TROUBLE.
SO YOU DIDN'T TELL LOIS, YOUR WIFE, THE LOVE OF YOUR LIFE...
BUT YOU TOLD ME?
WELL, YES, BUT...
IT'S DIFFERENT WITH YOU. I FEEL--
SAVED BY THE KRAKOOM...
IS SOMETHING SUPPOSED TO MAKE THAT SOUND?
NO, THAT'S NOT THE WONDERDOME... I THINK WE'RE UNDER--
SHAZZAKK!

:KAAAAAF!:
WH-WHAT WAS THAT...? F-FEEL... LIKE I WAS TWISTED INSIDE OUT...
A LITTLE LIKE TELEPORTATION, BUT--ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?
FINE. I BARELY FELT--
BY HERA... I...I KNOW THIS PLACE... IT'S--

WRETCHED DEATH MONGER!!!
DIANA! WHAT--?


SKRIEEEEE
THW
WAKK
FILTHY, ILL-BEGOTTEN OFFAL-SPAWN! YOU DARE THREATEN A DAUGHTER OF THEMYSCIRA.?!?
D-DIANA?
TEAR YOUR INNARDS OUT AND TIE YOU TO THE TREE OF LIFE WITH THEM, SON OF A MOTHER-LESS GOAT HERDER!!!

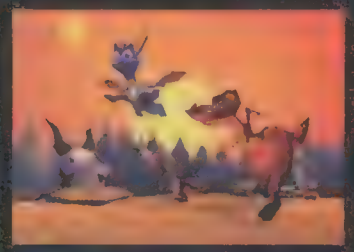

WHOA.
AYE..."WHOA" INDEED..'TIS A RARE GLADNESS TO SEE AN AMAZON DOING WHAT SHE DOES BEST. THY MISTRESS WILL PROVE A VALOROUS ALLY...

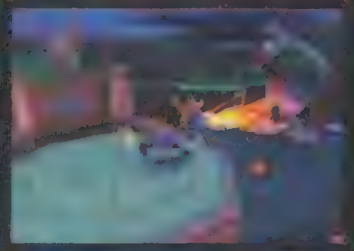

"MISTRESS"?
"MISTRESS" CAN'T BE GOOD.
FRET NOT, NOBLE VARLET! YOUR FAITHFUL SERVICE TO THY MATRON IS ABOUT TO REAP GREAT REWARD--!

FOR NO MERE MORTAL HAS EVER SEEN MY FATHER'S HOUSE... OR BEEN GRANTED THE PRIVILEGE OF WAGING GLORIOUS WAR WITHIN HER WALLS--
--ALONGSIDE THOR, ASGARD'S FAVORITE SON!!
I BID THEE WELCOME... TO VALHALLA!!!

UNIVERSAL

Spyro's back





He toasts his enemies one by one. And this time, he's not taking any prisoners. Spyro is on a rampage in the air, land and sea. This is one fire-breathing dragon ready to take on the world. Spyro 2: Ripto's Rage! It's fast. It's fierce. It's where second-degree burns are just part of the job.

Mess with him and you'll get burned.

EVERYONE
E

...AGAINST A SIMPLE ANCIENT EVIL.
THE BROKEN HUSK BEHIND ME WOULD HAVE BEEN CALLED A VRGTSMYTH WERE IT STILL BREATHING--
A DEMON FROM THE DEEPEST CIRCLES OF HADES, WICKEDNESS INCARNATE--
"WERE IT STILL BREATHING"? DIANA...
YOU KILLED IT?
OF COURSE. WHAT WAS I SUPPOSED TO DO TO IT?
...
BE NOT DUMBFOUNDED, SQUIRE...: KAFF: 'TWAS YOUR MISTRESS'S BLOOD DUTY TO SLAY THE BEAST...
THE VGRTSMYTH BE MORTAL ENEMIES TO ALL THINGS RIGHTEOUS... AND BELOVED VALHALLA IS :KOFF: CRAWLING WITH THEM.
CAST FROM MIDGARD, THEY SETTLED HERE, AND BLOOD HAS RAINED E'ER SINCE. THAT'S WHY I SUMMONED YOU... THE GODS OF ASSARD REQUIRE SUCCOR--
I DON'T UNDERSTAND... CAN'T YOU NEGOTIATE, OR SETTLE THIS PEACEFULLY--?
HA! FORGET THE WAYS OF THY HOME, SQUIRE! THE POLITICS OF MORTALS HAVE NO PLACE AMONG GODS...
KAL, THERE'S NO GREY AREA FOR ME HERE. I'M HONOR BOUND TO DEFEND ASGARD WITHOUT QUESTION, BUT YOU --
DON'T EVEN SAY IT. IF YOU'RE HERE, I'M HERE... THOUGH I WON'T KILL, NOT EVEN A DEMON--
THOU ART A NOBLE VARLET, YOUNG KAL, BUT EVEN IF YE WERE A COWARD, FOUL MAJIKS BIND VAHALLA...
I HAD ONLY THE STRENGTH TO SUMMON YE. I CANNAE SEND YE BACK 'TIL THIS WAR IS THROUGH.
HOW LONG SHOULD THAT TAKE?
METHINKS NOT TOO LONG... LAST TIME WE WERE OVERRUN BY FROST GIANTS--
THAT GLORIOUS BATTLE LASTED ONLY TWO THOUSAND YEARS...
KLAKOOM!

MEANWHILE, BACK IN THE WORLD OF MORTALS...
...BEHIND COLD STONE WALLS...
NO WAY! STEP OFF, GIRL!
YOU TELLIN' ME YOU ACTUALLY KISSED THE S-MAN?
BELIEVE IT, CHICA... AND I'LL TELL YOU THIS-- THOSE WERE THE LIPS OF AN UNMARRIED MAN... CLARAMENTE.
THERE IS NO MRS. SUPERMAN... YET.
AND WHEN EXACTLY YOU FIGURE ALL THIS OUT, ENCANTADORA? SUPES ALL OF A SUDDEN SWEATS CONS--?
LUNCH...

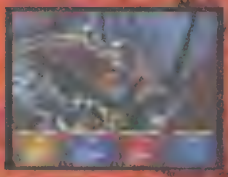
ALL WOMEN HAVE EQUIPMENT, LOVE... SOME OF US JUST USE IT BETTER--
POR EJEMPLO, SEÑOR ZOMBIE HERE...
WE ALREADY ATE LUNCH... WHAT'S THAT S'POSED T'BE, PIG?

DESSERT.
SOMETIMES, THERE ARE ADVANTAGES TO LIVING WITH A CURSE...

MMMM... MISS ME?
COME TO MAMMA...
HSSSSSS

Choose your weapon. Choose your quest.

Choose your team very carefully.



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MATURE M

And lo, the battle was begun. The princess born of clay. The Midgard champion and mighty Odinson did defend Asgard against the profane Vrgtsmyth.
Ne'er before and ne'er since had the noble spirits of the dead been led to such righteous combat. They followed the trio loyally for days...
Days which bled red into sleepless nights, which howled into painful months, which shrieked into forgotten years... and still, the battle raged on...
And still, great Kal did abide by dual oaths... never to kill, not even a demon...
...and to always hold the face of his beloved wife in his heart.
There were times when the tides of battle turned, that the great halls rang with merriment and humor that soldiers share on the battlefield...
But tranquility always brings her cousin, memory, to a soldier's heart... and Kal did long for the bride he'd not seen for-- how long had it been?
Five? Ten? Thirty years, now? Time in the land of Gods works in ways mysterious and slow, but works all the same.
So Kal always kept near the face of his beloved...though one spring, he found he did not remember her smell.
Diana smelled like orchids and fire...

The war raged... the dark lords of the Vrytsmyth infiltrating the inner chambers of Asgard, showing no signs of fatigue, no signs of mercy...
And there were great casualties-- casualties more evident than torn shreds of Kal's heart-- for in Valhalla...
...even a God may fall. "Tis up to you now, friends... I return to the great slumber, awaiting your victory..." whispered Thor as he passed beloved Mjolnir to Kal...
In Valhalla, when the battles end... great rewards await... avenge me, so that we might one day walk in Asgard's divine sun... together."
Kal did his best to counter the weight of Thor's hammer with the face of his beloved... though he no longer remembered her voice, or her middle name.
Diana's voice rang like a golden bell, chimed by a summer wind...
So the alien and the princess did fight to avenge the fallen...
And in the fighting, forged a bond between them that no demon could tear asunder...
A bond strong enough to beat back the darkness poisoning Asgard.
But not the darkness closing in around Kal's noble soul.
While the princess was accustomed to the ways of gods... Kal was still only a man.... a man whose heart could only bear anchor for so long...
Before it began to give way... before it began... to break... and forget... and Diana was so warm... so close...

... OLD GIRLFRIEND, HUH? HEH... ALWAYS ONE IN THE WINGS, WAITING TO LET A GREEN-EYED MONSTER LOOSE IN YOUR RELATIONSHIP...
SANDRA LARUE... THAT WAS MINE, ALICE MADE ME SLEEP ON THE COUCH FOR A WEEK AFTER SHE FOUND HER NUMBER--
YOU GET PAST IT?
THREE DOZEN ROSES AND A VERY STIFF NECK LATER, WE DID... JUST ONE OF MANY BUMPS IN THE ROAD OF HAPPINESS.
"ONE OF MANY..." PERRY... I...
YOU AND ALICE HAVE BEEN THROUGH SO MUCH TOGETHER... AND YOU'VE ALWAYS STUCK IT OUT. HOW DID YOU MANAGE...
I MEAN... ONCE YOU KNEW... SHE'D BEEN WITH SOMEONE ELSE?
WITH LEX?
...
SO... THAT'S WHERE WE'RE GOING. OKAY... LOIS, IS CLARK--? HAS HE--?
NO! I MEAN, I DON'T THINK-- NO, HE'S NOT... DOING ANYTHING... BAD, I THINK... IT'S MORE MY BRAIN--
I JUST WANT TO HEAR A HAPPY ENDING.
... WITH ALICE... THERE WERE CIRCUMSTANCES THAT MADE IT EASIER TO UNDERSTAND... I WAS IN ASIA... LUTHOR CONVINCED HER I WAS DEAD...
BUT MOSTLY... IT WAS ME. 364 DAYS A YEAR, THE PAPER SEEMED MORE IMPORTANT THAN MY WIFE.
IT WASN'T RIGHT, SO I FESSED UP AND FIXED IT. YOU WANT A HAPPY ENDING?
WHATEVER YOU'RE DOING THAT'S MAKING YOU FEEL UNWORTHY OF CLARK--KNOCK IT OFF. YOU'LL BE GLAD YOU DID.
IT'S SIMPLE, ISN'T IT? THANKS, CHIEF...
PERRY WHITE
PUBL
BY THE WAY... YOU SAID 364 DAYS A YEAR... WHEN'S THE DAY OFF?
OUR ANNIVERSARY, OF COURSE...
BEST DAY OF MY LIFE.

The land of Gods..
Where for nigh one thousand years, or what blood-soaked fairy time felt as such, valorous Kal and fierce Diana did struggle...
Until finally, their campaign found them at the Demon stronghold, a decisive battle in reach...
Both on Asgard's hallowed ground... and within the heart of the great Kal.
A heart which had grown weary... and very, very lonely... a heart which hungered... for a woman's soft touch...

;KAFF; THE TROOPS... THEY... DID YOU GO OVER THE STRIKE PLAN? ;KOFF; DO THEY KNOW--?
I TRAINED THEM MYSELF, KAL, AND THEY'RE WARRIORS BORN... THEY'RE READY.
NOW YOU REST, AND JUST LET THE POTIONS DO THEIR WORK--
I... I CAN'T REST, DIANA. I KEEP THINKING ABOUT TOMORROW..
I KEEP THINKING ABOUT TONIGHT.

SO DO I.
WHEN THE SUN RISES, ONE WAY OR ANOTHER... WE WIN, OR WE DIE. TONIGHT... THIS NIGHT--
-- IS OUR LAST NIGHT TOGETHER... YES.

I... I CAN'T, DIANA.
SILLY, RIGHT? EVEN IF SHE IS... GONE... A THOUSAND YEARS AND ANOTHER WORLD PAST...
LOIS IS STILL THE ONLY ONE.
NO, IT'S NOT SILLY... IT'S PERFECT. IT'S RIGHT. EXACTLY RIGHT.
THANK YOU, DIANA... FOR ALWAYS BEING MY BEST FRIEND. I LOVE YOU.
I LOVE YOU, TOO... CLARK.

And as dawn broke Kal-el of Midgard, his confidante and compatriot, Diana of Themyscira, at his side--
-- led the battalions of fallen Asgard against the wretched Vgrtsmyth and their accursed sovereign for the last time.
KHOOOM!
Armed with unyielding Mjolnir, driven by the soul, the smell, the voice, and the face of his one true love, Lois...
Great Kal sang a warriors' song that raged for ten years... for just an hour... forever...

Until the demon generals lay prostrate... and their foot soldiers were slain...
And Kal himself delivered the blow that felled the contemptible mooncalf back through the doorway whence he came--
Ever keeping his oath not to kill... not even a demon.
IS THAT IT? DID WE--
IT'S OVER. WE WON...
NOT BAD FOR A PRINCESS AND HER VARLET, HUH...?
Finally... light returned to Valhalla.
SPLENDID! GLORIOUS! MAGNIFICENT! YE HATH AVENGED ASGARD, BROTHERS AND SISTERS!
THE BATTLE IS WON!!!
AYE, SQUIRE! THE ODINSON IS ARISEN TO RECLAIM FAIR MJOLNIR, RESTORE HIS FATHER'S KINGDOM--
--AND TO REWARD HIS FAVORED WARRIORS WITH THY HEARTS' DESIRES! SO WHAT SAY YE? ANYTHING YE CRAVE IS YOURS!
THOR!

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ANYTHING...?
YOU HEARD THE GOD, CLARK... ANYTHING.
THERE IS ONE THING WE'D LIKE... IF IT'S NOT TOO MUCH TROUBLE...
So I did it. God forgive me. to save the Planet... compromised all I hold dear. I made a deal with Lex
A DEAL I'VE KEPT SECRET FROM YOU, CLARK. YOU... THE MAN WHO RISKED IT ALL TO REVEAL HIMSELF TO ME UTTERLY..
AND NOW THAT BLACK HOLE SPINNING IN THE BOTTOM OF MY GUT HAS LEFT ME WONDERING WHETHER OR NOT...
WHETHER OR NOT..
I DESERVE TO BE YOUR WIFE.
OH, CLARK...
FWOOSH

PlayStation

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EVERYONE E

GAME ARTS

JUST LIKE I REMEMBER... THANK GOD..
TELL ME YOU MISSED ME EVEN HALF AS MUCH AS I MISSED YOU--
LOIS?
I MISSED YOU, CLARK ... I REALLY DID...
I'M SORRY, I WAS SO EXCITED-- THAT PIECE OF PAPER, DO YOU NEED--?
NO! NO...IT'S NOTHING... ALL I NEED..
IS FOR YOU TO HOLD ME... TIGHT.
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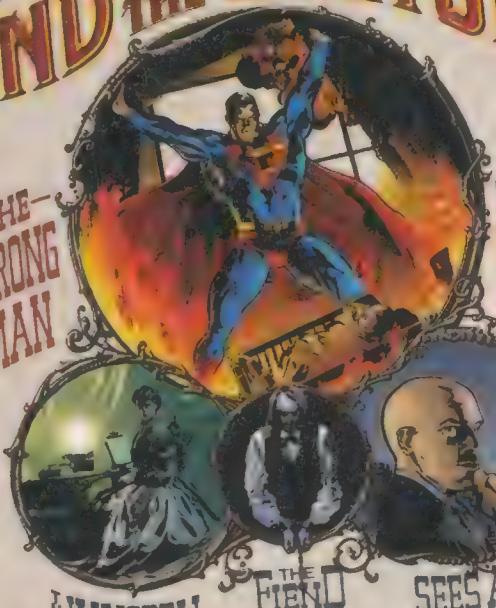
END OF THE CENTURY



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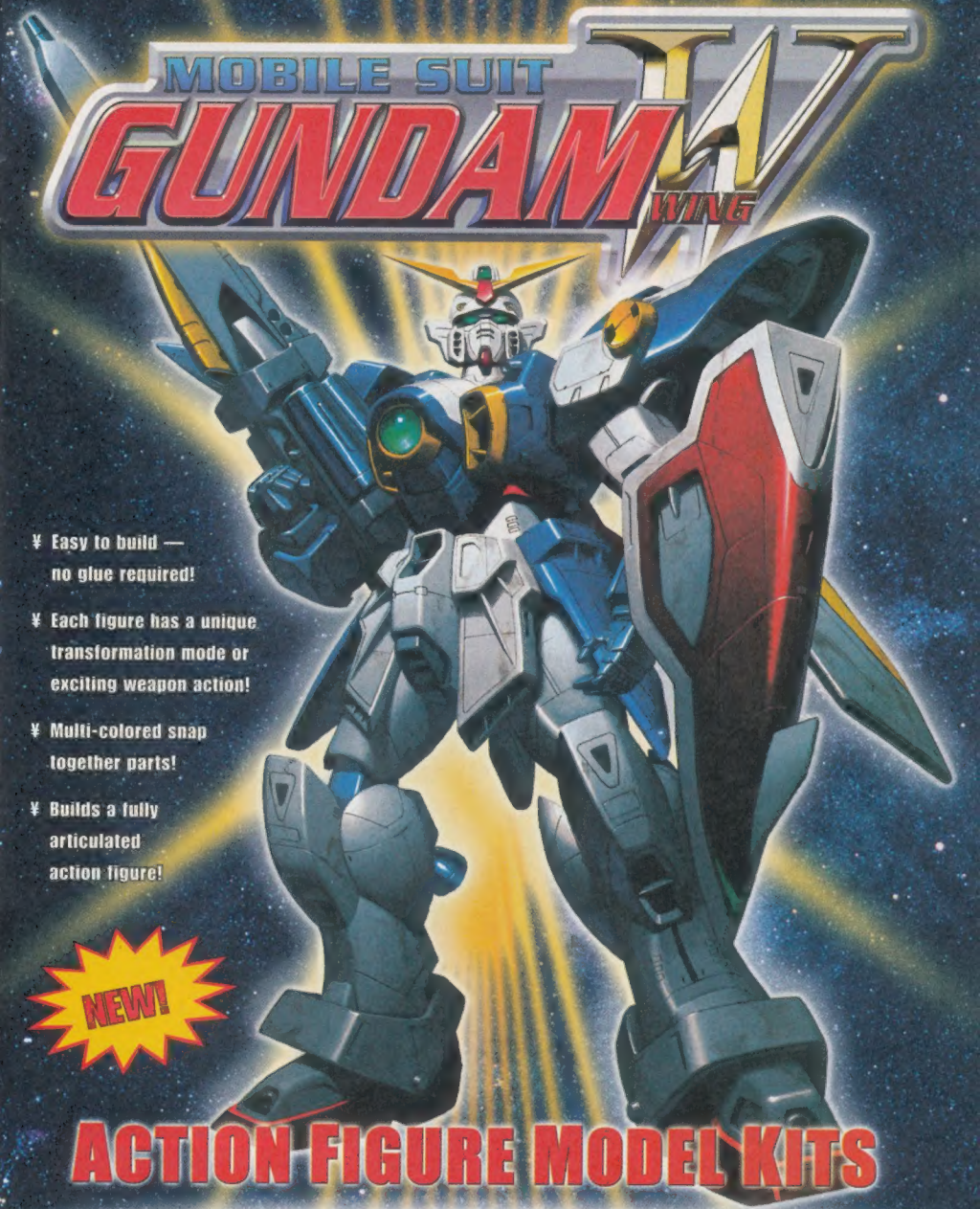

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RE:ACTION

Dear Re:Action:

ACTION #755 left me with mixed reACTIONs. When I saw the cover, I thought I was reading an issue of BATMAN, with Gotham City in ruins. And I didn't like Shawn Martinbrough's cartoony visuals—Superman was too skinny and his cape was too large. The layouts weren't bad, but this is Superman, and only the best should be working on the Big Red "S," not some rookie artist.

In the past, if Superman did something strange because he was under the control of Red Kryptonite or some super-villain, all was forgiven. Don't drag this on; I don't want another "No Man's Land" type, never-ending storyline. Superman should get into more down-to-Earth problems, like drunk driving, drugs, and kids bringing guns to school. People can relate to that more than another battle with a villain from another planet. Remember—as Clark Kent, Superman can "see" things that only Superman can't.

DENNIS PETILLI
SMITHTOWN, NY

Sorry you didn't care for Shawn's art, Dennis, but he's hardly a rookie—he was the regular penciller on THE CREEPER, and he's now working in the very Bat-universe you mentioned. We felt his style suited the dark, somber story we were going for.

As for covering more "down-to-Earth" topics, the Super-books have done their fair share with stories about spousal abuse (MAN OF STEEL #16 and SUPERMAN #72), homelessness (ADVENTURES #462) and teenage drunk driving (ADVENTURES #474). We've also had a supporting cast member with cancer (Perry White), touched on print media's growing plight (SAVE THE PLANET), dealt with pregnancy out of wedlock (including in ACTION #755) and showed some of the ramifications of Superman's recent actions (SUPERMAN #145). Rather than just hit people over the head with "social" issues, we prefer introducing such topics in the midst of Superman's never-ending battle for Truth and Justice. And while we're making introductions, let's introduce you to this month's Baldy award! Congrats!

Dear DC:

ACTION #755 was a pretty standard "post-epic storyline" issue, though I found the imaginary "Necropolis" sequence haunting and quite chilling. With or without the influence of Dominus, Superman's true self would have emerged eventually. I can't imagine the pain and remorse a good soul such as Clark would feel if events had truly led him to reign over all Earth in such a way. The sequence was haunting in that the lack of speech or insight into Superman's thoughts created a sense of emptiness and utter hopelessness.

I'd love to see this storyline expanded into an ELSEWORLDS special, please!

PAUL CHUDLEIGH
(PAUL.CHUDLEIGH@LINEONE.COM)
LONDON, ENGLAND

You mean you'd love for us to exploit the misery Superman has undergone these past months? Egads, you cad! We'll think about it.

—Mike McAvennie

What? It was an honest response.

COMING ATTRACTIONS:

IN ONE WEEK: Mongul, Jr. and Big Blue meet the threat they've been prepping for: Imperiex! It's SUPERMAN #153 by Loeb, McKone and Alquiza!

IN TWO WEEKS: Does a soprano have it in for Lex Luthor? It's a night at the opera with Immonen, Millar, Paquette, Vines and Faber in ADVENTURES #575!

IN THREE WEEKS: You've never seen Metropolis like this! It's time for the giant-sized SUPERMAN: Y2K, by Kelly, Guice and Conrad!

IN FOUR WEEKS: The Eradicator's back, and fighting Supes and Steel in Stryker's Island! Schultz, Mahnke and Nguyen bail out on MAN OF STEEL #97!

IN FIVE WEEKS: It's the holiday season, so it must be time for... Etrigan the Demon?! Kelly, Garcia and Rubinstein ring in a new year of change in the Super-books with ACTION #762!

dccomics.com
KEYWORD: DC COMICS ON AOL

This month's Wonder-ful cover was brought to you by Dwayne Turner, Danny Miki and Liquid Color!

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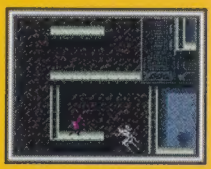

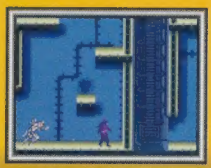

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